

**INVESTIGATE STUDENTS' INDECENT DRESSING AND ATTITUDINAL CHANGES  
AMONG STUDENTS OF FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**



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**BENIN CITY.**

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**BEING A PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,  
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## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research work titled “Investigate Students’ Indecent Dressing And Attitudinal Changes Among Students Of Faculty Of Social Science, University Of Benin” was done and written Odunayo Aweni Raimi, With Matriculation Number SSC1909852, under the supervision of Dr. Augustine Alenkhe

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## Abstract

The paper focuses on investigating students' indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. The Survey research design was used in this study, the population for this study consisted of Social Science, University of Benin. The sample of this study consisted of 144 student from the faculty. A random sampling method and the purposive sampling technique was adopted. The data collected were analyzed using questionnaire analysis for the research questions raised. The findings revealed various forms that include the use of the internet, fading values, and peer influence. The consequence includes rape, prostitution, HIV/AIDs and other venereal diseases/infections, cases of armed robbery, lying, poor school grades, dropout others. In conclusion, it shows that indecent dressing has negative effects on students. From the research findings, it is obvious that the absence of a dress code has created a high rate of indecent dressing. This has manifested in forms of distraction, lack of academic focus, sexual harassment, cultism, loss of integrity, etc. It was recommended that parents/ guidance should teach their children moral education, they should give them enough attention and encourage them not to over-indulgence in watching films at home and also mass-media, especially social-media should promote the positive aspect of norms, values, and tradition in our society.

**Keywords:** student; Environment; Dressing; Indecent; Sagging;

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Globally, dressing depute the social status of an individual and the often reveal the personality of such person. Dressing is an act of clothing that seem to cover a person's nakedness. According to Fareo and Jackson (2018), Dressing is an act of putting on clothes. Importance of wearing a cloth on the body is in order to protect, beautify or adorn it. Clothes are one of the basic necessities of man. If a dress deviates from what the community considers appropriate or diminishes the value of that community, it is deemed indecent (Birhan, 2019).

According to Akpan (2018), decent dressing preserves a person's dignity and inspires respect, making it an essential aspect of human life. Furthermore, decent dressing is the appropriate and socially acceptable way to dress without baring off any important body parts. Ewulo (2016) provided evidence to support this claim, stating that decent dressing is defined as that which is worn in an organized way and is morally appropriate for a decent standard of living. Decent dressing prevents needless self-exposure. It doesn't cause distractions, nor does it imply violence or sex. Students who dress nicely get respect from lecturers, parents, and other students, and most importantly, it keeps them safe from being the victim of rape and failure (Ewulo, 2016; Ojogbane, Amonjenu & Husseini, 2020; Chigbu, Oguzie & Obi, 2021).

On the other hand, inappropriate and provocative dressing in relation to the students' society or culture is known as indecent dressing. Fareo and Jackson (2018) added that this style of dressing is provocative, improper, and morally repugnant, supporting this point of view. According to Ewulo (2016), indecent dressing is any attire that deviates from the morally acceptable norm of decent attire. According to Kwanuba, Subaba, and Filgona (2020), indecent dressing is any

objectionable and provocative style of clothing that deviates from the norm for the society or culture of the students. According to Akpan (2018), indecent dressing is a disruptive and distracting manner of dressing or appearing. Indecent dress, according to Oluwadare, Otunaiya, and Opeoluwa (2020), is any style of clothing that deviates from the norm for socially acceptable attire in a particular community of reference. According to Fareo and Jackson (2018), indecent dressing refers to the attitude of a person, regardless of gender, who dresses to expose body parts like the buttocks, breasts, or even undergarments that are typically covered. It is instructive to note that being nude in one's bedroom, bathroom, or even labor room is acceptable. Nonetheless, it is considered impolite to be nude outside of the previously stated confinement. Consequently, wearing indecent clothing implies exposing one's private areas to the public. It's interesting to note that there are various types of inappropriate attire (Azuka, 2023).

According to the societal norms, examples of indecent clothes are drooping pants and skirts, low-neck shirts that reveal the breasts or cleavages, transparent clothing, miniskirts, and jewelry that promotes violence or sex, among other things. The main features of indecent dressing, according to Coji (2014), are also as follows: "strapless clothing, bum shorts, short blouses, miniskirts/gowns, cleavage shirts, drooping of pants, and hair coloring by men and even girls." Previously, it was believed that women were more responsible for indecent dressing than men, but lately, men have been trying desperately to close the gap by going nearly nude and calling sagging as fashionable (Oyeleye, 2022).

Anku, Danso, and Kuwornu-Adjaottor (2018) captured how severely the threat of indecent dressing among university students, particularly female undergraduates, has swept through our campuses, stating that today's higher education campuses have fostered a climate for the display of seductive wear, especially by the females. For example, the provocative and seductive ways in

which most students, especially the female ones, dressed in the lecture halls left those who had recently visited campuses of higher education wondering if they were in an academic community or an enclave of fashion fair.

Obeta and Uwa (2015) examined the factors that influence female undergraduates' indecent dressing in tertiary institutions in Abia State, Nigeria. Their research revealed that imitation of western dress styles, peer and social group pressure, mass media, imitating movie actresses, and current fashion trends are all major influences on the dress patterns of female undergraduates. In a related study, Oli (2017) asserted that elements like the home environment, peer group influence, the internet's detrimental effects, and shifting social values all have an impact on indecent dressing among female undergraduates in Nigeria's higher education institutions.

Other scholars, like Okafor and Uwalaka (2021), believe that this "unholy" way of wearing can also lead to prostitution, armed robbery, lying, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, and low academic achievement. Other factors include the diminished productivity of male lecturers, diversion, inattention, sexual harassment, cults, loss of integrity, and subpar academic achievement (Olorunda, 2022). Therefore, this study investigate indecent dressing and attitudinal changes of students in University of Benin.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The neural structure of men and women differs. Males just need to see in order to be sexually moved, whereas females are moved by what they hear. Indecent dressing by female undergraduates in Nigerian universities takes many forms, from skimpy gowns to provocatively transparent and sensual ensembles that expose portions of the body to public view that, under normal circumstances, should be kept hidden to stay private. Nigerian women enjoy dressing in

armless shirts, bumper shorts, miniskirts, and other outfits. Because of this illness, innocent young boys have been arrested alongside hooligans. It's hard to blame police for detaining boys these days because they pierce their ears and fix their hair, giving the impression that they are hardened criminals. Due to the way they dressed, many of them had at some point been the victims of rape, drawn into prostitution, used as props in rituals, prevented from finishing their education or training, and involved in other related moral and societal issues like lying and cultism, to name a few. Various boy styles such as sagging [low waist], hot bosom [opening of the chest], and the like are popular nowadays.

One of the biggest problems facing Nigerian tertiary institutions nowadays is indecent dressing. According to Ozobo, Olomu, and Ayinmoro (2014), indecent dressing is a problem at every tertiary institution in Nigeria. Given its negative impacts, numerous attempts have been made to stop it, such as enacting laws to checkmate students and introducing dress codes. According to Sadeeq (2015), students who dress indecently become targets for sexual gratification from academic staff members, which can lead to failure and maltreatment if the students refuse. This is one reason why indecent dressing is linked to poor academic performance.

Regarding the different elements that could lead to indecent dressing among Nigerian university students, Chukwudi and Gbakorun (2011) contend that low self-worth and perception are the main causes, particularly for female undergraduates, of people dressing indecently to draw attention. According to Eijeden (2010), a person's familial background significantly influences how a youngster dresses. A child's clothing style conveys information about their origins as well as their values. According to Bandura (2009), juvenile behavior patterns are significantly influenced by the mass media. The environment of a university also exposes itself to the display of some actions that are seen as social vices, such as indecent dressing. There are moments when

it leaves one wondering if university students really know the distinction between decent and indecent dressing, let alone the consequences that come with it. The main goal of this research is to investigate undergraduate students' indecent dressing and the consequences that follow, along with some potential causes of this conduct.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

The following research questions are posed to guide the study

- i. What are the various forms of indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin?
- ii. To what extent does the campus environment contribute to indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin?
- iii. What are the students' attitudes and perception towards indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin?
- iv. Is there any perceived effects and consequences of indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin?

### **1.4 Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to investigate students' indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. The specific objectives are;

- i. To examine the various forms of indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin.
- ii. To investigate the extent to which the campus environment contribute to indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin.

- iii. To determine students' attitudes and perception towards indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin.
- iv. To investigate the perceived effects and consequences of indecent dressing among undergraduate students in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The findings of the study will be of immense benefits to all and sundry particularly to students, university authorities, parents and indeed the general public. This study will help to encourage students' especially female students on the need to dress decently. It will help to enlighten them on the need to dress decently as this will go a lot way to promote sense of responsibility and respect among the students. This study will help parents rise up to the challenges of proper parenting of their wards, particularly as it concerns moral and dressing. Parents can apply the knowledge got from this study to monitor the clothing selection of their wards and hopefully the conflicts that occur between parents and their adolescents as a result of indecent dressing will reduce to the barest minimum. This study will be beneficial to university authorities. Universities can use the findings of the study during orientation programmes for the first year students and as continuous programmers for older students on the need to dress decently within and outside the campuses. It is believed that the information gathered will help to keep students abreast on the need to maintain high level of decency in their conduct and appearance at all times. Finally, this study would provide future researchers with reliable instrument, procedures and references for future research.

## **1.6 Scope of the Study**

The study focuses on students' indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of university of Benin and in order to have more accurate and reliable data, the study is limited to cover undergraduate students' in Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. The study covers both male and female undergraduate students' in the faculty.

## CHAPTER TWO

### LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

#### 2.1 Indecent Dressing

Indecent dressing is the improper and provocative way of dressing relative to the society or culture of the students (Kwanuba, Subaba & Filgona, 2020). Fareo and Jackson (2018) noted that this form of dressing is provocative, improper, and morally unacceptable. Ewulo (2016) opined that indecent dressing is any form of dressing that does not conform with the acceptable moral standard of decent dressing. Oluwadare, Otunaiya, and Opeoluwa (2020) added that indecent dressing means any type of dressing that is not in conformity with the socially acceptable mode of dressing in the particular community of reference. Fareo and Jackson (2018) referred to indecent dressing as the attitude of someone, male or female that dresses to show off parts of the body such as the breasts, buttocks, or even underwear that need to be covered. Hence indecent dressing is concerned with the exposure of vital parts of the body to the public, and flaunting it everywhere.

Egwim (2010) defined indecent dressing as an attitude of someone, male or female that dresses to show off parts of the body such as the breasts, buttocks or even the underwear particularly those of the ladies that need to be covered. Osagiogbare, Ekwukoma and Ekomaru (2015) added that indecent dressing is any form of dressing that is likely to shock/offend others, or elicit sexual provocation. It is any form of dressing that does not properly cover the sexually sensitive parts of the body such as the armpit, cleavage, breast, thighs, buttocks, navel, the chest of a male, the back of a female, and so on. Omede (2011) remarked that a dress is said to be indecent when it has a provocative or stimulating influence on almost all those that happen to view it on the user.

Ako and Igbo (2013) sadly noted that most tertiary institutions in Nigeria are replete with dresses that can be described as indecent. For instance, some females put on trousers that expose their underwear when they bend down or take a sitting position.

Sola (2018) defined Indecent dressing is the mode of dressing or appearance that is disruptive and distracting. The author also noted that the mode of dressing or appearance includes; trousers and skirts worn below the waist (sagging), singlet, spaghetti blouses, low neck blouses exposing the breasts, skirts with slit above the knees, transparent dresses, shirts and blouses, attire printed with offensive or obscene wordings, revealing attires mini-skirts and so on.

According to Imoh (2015), though there is no universally acceptable way or ways of dressing, dresses are meant to serve some definable purposes, country or region notwithstanding. Dressing is part of people's culture and it defines their tribal or ethnic identity. Apart from dressing being means of identity, they are for ornamental or aesthetical purposes, for protection of the body against harsh weather conditions as well as for covering the intimate parts of the body. These purposes are important especially as they form the major aspect of a person's and as important as these purposes are, they have been defeated by Nigerian youths Imoh (2015). Sadeeq (2015) considered decent dressing to be the proper way of dressing or the generally accepted way of dressing without exposing vital parts of the body.

Yahaya (2013) submitted that a decent dressing, of course is part of human life, because it elicits respect and protects the persons dignity. Indecent dressing on the other hand is the improper and provocative way of dressing relative to the society or culture in which it is being perpetrated. This is to say indecent dressing cannot be properly defined in isolation of the societal norms (Yahaya, 2013). Egwim (2010) considered indecent dressing to be the attitude of someone, male or female that dresses to show off parts of the body such as the breast, buttocks or even the

underwear particularly those of the ladies that need to be covered. Olori (2017) considered the meaning of indecent dressing from the moral point of view. Indecent dressing is any type of dressing that the society abhors. This form of dressing is provocative, improper and morally unacceptable. These dress pattern are morally offensive and reveal the high rate of moral decadence in the society of our time.

Adebayo (2017) described indecent dressing in respect of situation. Indecent dressing is the wearing of cloths that are not appropriate for a particular occasion or situation. This is because as explained by the author, it is not indecent to be naked in the bathroom, in the labour room or in the bedroom with your spouse. Decent dressing, according to Anadi *et al.* (2011) should ensure that the clothing should cover body parts including stomach, belly button, back shoulders, chest and the legs below the knees, small earring and light makeup, low heeled noiseless shoes, clean hair, etc. indecent dressing is the mode of dressing or appearance that is disruptive and distracting. This includes trousers and skirts worn below the waist (sagging), singlet, spaghetti blouse, low neck blouses exposing the breasts, skirts with slit above the knees, transparent dresses, shirts and blouses, attire printed with offensive or obscene wording revealing attires, mini – skirts, bathroom slippers of bare foot, clothing including t-shirts which displays sex, violence, drug, tobacco, alcohol, death, gang or hate, slogans or pictures, tight trousers, shirts, dresses or skirts, boggy trousers, non-natural colored hair, body piercing jewelry except the ears of women, chains tattoo with provocative writing or picture, noisy shoe heels, to mention a few (Anadi *et al.* 2011). Indecent dressing has become a major challenge in Nigerian tertiary institutions. Ozobo *et al.* (2014) observed that all tertiary institution in Nigeria is struggling with indecent dressing. Considering its adverse effects, many efforts have been made to curb the menace which includes the introduction of dressing code and legislations to checkmate students.

Chukwudi and Gbakorun (2011) asserted that indecent dressing is a threat to our cultural values. It is associated with sexual harassment and rape. Sadeeq (2015) believes that indecent dressing contributes to poor academic performance as it makes the students a target of many academic staffs for sexual gratification which on refusal may result to failure and victimization.

According to Olori in Fareo and Jackson (2018), this style of dressing is also inappropriate, provocative, and morally repugnant. According to Ewulo (2016), indecent dressing is any attire that deviates from the morally acceptable definition of decent attire. According to Egwin in Fareo and Jackson (2018), indecent dressing is the mindset of a person—male or female—who dresses to flaunt body parts like the buttocks, breasts, or even undergarments that should be covered. Hence, the public display of one's body parts and its exposure to the elements constitute indecent dressing. In Ojogbane, Amonjenu, and Hussein (2020), Oyeleye defines indecent dressing as only purposefully exposing one's body to the public. According to Yohanna, Sababa, and Filgona (2020), it is the inappropriate and provocative way that students dress in relation to their society or culture.

On Nigerian university campuses, many students' wardrobes have come to be associated with indecent dressing. Several undergraduate students in Nigerian universities are almost going nude for the sake of fashion, particularly the female ones. Their desperate attempts to be trendy have led them to create a bizarre subculture of public nudity. Most campuses are overrun with garish and sexually suggestive dressing. Some male and female undergraduate students are almost indistinguishable from hard-core metropolitan street thugs and prostitutes, respectively (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

### **2.1.2 Dressing in Faculty of Social Sciences**

Igbinovia (2005) in a study stated that 60% of female undergraduate students of the University in Nigeria dress indecently. Similar to this, Anadi, Egboka, and Aniorobi (2011) opined that it is the overwhelmingly indecent dresses of the girls that attract much public concern and emphasis on the part of the girls. So also, Ogidefa (Cited in Anadi, Egboka, and Aniorobi 2011), carried out research on indecent dress on Nigerian campuses, including types of dress and effects of the exposure. Yet, little or no study has shown much concern on the linkage between indecent dressing habits and the tragedy of body deformity especially on sagging as a dress pattern. Decent dressing can be explained as the proper way of dressing or the generally accepted way of dressing without exposing vital parts of the human body. Yahaya (2013) that decent dressing, of course, is part of human life, because it elicits respect and protects the person's dignity. Decent dressing by youths attracts respect from elders, lecturers, guards, classmates, and most significantly protects the females from being the target of rape and failure. Indecent dressing on the other hand is the improper and provocative way of dressing relative to the society or culture in which it is being perpetrated. This is to say that indecent dressing cannot be properly defined in isolation of the societal norms. What is indecent to you in say Nigeria is decent elsewhere. This brings to the fore the assertion of some schools of thought that indecent dressing is mainly due to "foreign culture." Meaning this way of dressing is alien to Nigeria culture and is therefore an affront to our very existence and identity.

Egwim (2010), referred to indecent dressing in a more specific term as the attitude of someone, male or female that dresses to show off parts of the body such as the breasts, buttocks, or even the underwear particularly those of the ladies that need to be covered. In addition, there are those who believe that indecent dressing bothers so much on morality hence they ascribe some moral

meanings to it. They say indecent dressing is any type of dressing that society abhors. Olori, (2003), this form of dressing is provocative, improper, and morally unacceptable. These dress patterns are morally offensive and reveal the high rate of moral decadence in the society of our time. The indecent dressing can be understood based on the prevailing norms and acceptable ways of dressing relative to the society in which it is being perpetrated. It is therefore clear and lucid that the explanation of indecent dressing is subject to societal expectations.

Oyeleye, (2012), indecent dressing simply means the deliberate exposure of one's body to the public. This practice is contrary to the acceptable norms and values of society. Moral decadence on the other is a reduction in the level of morality in society. Adeboye (2012) defined indecent dressing as the wearing of clothes that are not appropriate for a particular occasion or situation. She further explained that it is not indecent to go naked in the bathroom, in labour room, or in the bedroom with your partner. The statement further stated that parts of the body (usually sexual organs) that normally should be covered for girls would be their breasts, thighs, and buttocks. A child in a community whether good or bad has a home as well as parents. The environment has a greater influence on the development of any child. Omede and Obiora (2000) collaborate that the home is every child's first window to the outside world, what the parents do with the child at this level in terms of training and orientation go a long way to determining what the child becomes tomorrow. Children live or die, thrive, or wither, due to the decision of their parents (Gushee, 2004). It is from the parents that the child learns about values, beliefs, and other forms of behaviour acceptable to the community. The child learns these through instructions, observations, and practices from parents and other siblings. The implication of this is that parents must be seen to be morally exemplary, and they are the most important people in their children's lives. Whiteburst, (2004), but the question is how many parents have good moral character? How many

of them pay attention to their children? Children are kept uncared for as a result of the absence of the parents from home for business and other social and spiritual engagements. (Omede and Omede, 2004). Many parents especially mothers buy any type of dress for their children. Mothers even go a long way adorning their children with hair attachments, rosy cheeks, and eye shadows to the embarrassment of lookers, when the child grows she finds it difficult to depart from this way of life. When the right values, beliefs, and attitudes are correctly laid at the childhood stage, such a child is more likely to grow and develop later in a life wellbehaved. Proverb 22: 6 says “Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Olorunda, 2022).

### **2.1.3 Causes of Indecent Dressing in faculty of Social Sciences, University Of Benin**

There are many causative variables of indecent dressing among university students. This is rather apt given that the cause of indecent dressing among male students may differ from that their female counterparts. More so, indecent dressing appears to have been more associated with the female gender than the male gender. Many adolescents that are given to indecent dressing do so as a result of their exposure to media, poor parenting/moral upbringing, peer pressure as well as desire to keep up with a particular social class (Oga, 2016; Sola, 2018; Omorogiuwa, 2018).

**Parental disposition:** Parents are seen as the child’s first teacher. This, to all intents and purposes, means that parents play a very vital role in the upbringing of the child. The expectation is that parents model behaviors that are worthy of emulation by children. Apparently, children learn more by observation than by instruction. Example is better than precept. Thus, the trend of indecent dressing seen among university students can hardly be separated from their parents’ disposition towards indecent dressing. Corroborating the afore-mentioned assertion, Egbule

(2013) noted that children blossom or wither as result of their parents' choices. This means that parents must be seen as living above board (Nzoiwu, 2023).

**Negative Influence of the Internet:** The evolution of information and communication technology (ICT) which is birthed the use of internet has brought about immense changes in students' perception of dressing. It has shaped their perception so much so that those that are addicted to it take on the dress code of celebrities that they see and follow on social media. Sadly, some of these celebrities, though popular, are not good moral compasses to follow. Not a few students have the computer as the extension of their fingers. Thus, in keeping with current trend that appears to promote indecency in dressing, students tend to lend themselves to indecent dressing (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Peer Pressure:** A child without solid moral upbringing is bound to be vulnerable to peer group influences. A need to belong and a fear of rejection have culminated in young adolescents' involvement in unethical or immoral behavior without their knowledge (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021). Peer pressure makes it difficult for a students to say no even in the midst of apparent vice. In contrast, a student with proper parental education is bound to possess the innate capacity to stand against social vices such as indecent dressing that threatens their moral and emotional health (Nzoiwu, 2023).

**Erosion of societal values:** Environmental stimulation has a way of either positively or negatively affecting a students' growth. A student is an active member of a society. Thus, the happenings in the society to which a student is exposed has a way of influencing their conduct; manner of dressing inclusive. Thus, moral vices in the society such as corruption, indiscipline, prostitution among others take its toll on a student's behavior. In similar vein, Ewulo (2016) observed that youngsters are swiftly picking up on what they see transpire in their society.

Within the Nigerian context, most of its rich values appears to be eroding way as a result of non-patronage and modernity (Sola, 2018). Contemporary youths have a hard time identifying these values. For instance, decent dress patterns appear to be paving way to the skimpy and seductive adornments that appear to be a current fad in recent times. Shockingly, some students who dress indecently do so out of blissful ignorance since nothing or nobody cautions them otherwise (Nzoiwu, 2023).

**Poor self-worth:** Poor self-worth could account for the trend of indecent dressing among university students. For instance, some students erroneously believe that the exposure of sensitive parts of their body will attract the opposite sex to themselves either for financial gain, good grades or for sexual satisfaction. Some female students who dress provocatively could do so to attract their male lecturers to make them do their bidding which includes giving them ‘sexually-transmitted grades’ (Nzoiwu, 2023).

#### **2.1.4 Forms of Indecent Dressing among Undergraduates in faculty of Social Sciences, University Of Benin**

Bojos and Marquet (2000) identified common types of indecent dressers on campuses. According to them, they include the elitist, the amorous, the unprincipled and the compensatory indecent dressers. The elitist seductive dressers are usually from privileged and economically empowered background. They usually flaunt their salient features like the breast and pubic in attempt to promote themselves which make them very prone to sexual harassment Bojos et al (2000) noted that most of such students’ parents are in upper classes. Amorous indecent dressers are sexually seductive but often avoid real intimacy. They simply play games by deceptively seducing their prey for economic purposes. The unprincipled indecent dressers are unscrupulous, deceptive, arrogant and exploitative while the compensatory indecent dressers do so to cover up

for their feelings of inferiority. They only try to create illusions of being superior and exceptional on campus by dressing indecently. Findings about indecently dressed females indicate that they have maladaptive ideas about themselves particularly the belief that they are pleasurable and deserve to be treated as such.

According to Okafor and Uwalaka (2021), some forms of indecent dressing by male and female undergraduate students' are stated;

Female Students: Sleeveless tops, body hugs, short knickers, transparent clothes, bogus fashion jewelries spaghetti tops, off shoulders, miniskirts, dress and skirt with slit above the knees, etc.

Male Students: Slacks, shorts, pants or jeans, head ties, earrings, T-Shirts and jeans which carry immoral messages, etc.

### **2.1.5 Effects/Consequences of Indecent Dressing among Undergraduates in in faculty of Social Sciences, University Of Benin**

Indecent dressing could lead to the following; Sexual harassment, ritual killing, tendency to steal, unwanted pregnancy, lying, contraction of HIV/AIDS, poor performance in school work and prostitutions

**Sexual Harassment:** Indecent dressing is the major cause of the various assault and sexual harassment recorded in the society over time. There is like likelihood that ladies who dress indecently or provocatively could be prone to sexual harassment and or rape. Sola (2018) stated that skimpy, transparent and sexy dresses worn by female undergraduates elicit sexual responses in males; such dresses were dresses that expose the legs, dress that expose the breast and dresses that show the exact size and shape of the buttocks. These forms of dresses suggest that such

ladies need attention and that they are irresponsible and so there are always irresponsible men to dialogue, lure or force them to bed for sex (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Ritual Killing:** Some female undergraduates who dress indecently have fallen victims of ritual killers. Many of them based on their mode of dressing had been invited for a supposed sex only to be murdered by ritual killers (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Stealing:** In attempt to look modern and be like other, many of these youths had taken to stealing and armed robbery. The boys for instance, under financial pressure from their girlfriend could resort to armed robbery to square up to this demand to impress and keep their “babes”. Many boys have been arrested as armed robbery just because of the way they dressed (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Unwanted Pregnancy:** A female student who dresses indecently may be raped or forced into sex and pregnancy may result. Such pregnancy is unwanted and this may hinder the student’s academic studies. Some of these students who are faced with unwanted pregnancies resort to abortion. In some cases, they lose their lives as a result of dangerous abortion (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Lying:** The home background of some of these students may not allow for prostitution, stealing or armed robbery but to keep afloat and up to date with what is in vogue, they may resort to lying “the lesser sin”, to obtain the money they need from their parents (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

**Contracting of HIV/Aids:** This is another risk factor that immodestly dressed ladies could be prone to when such ladies are forced in to sex against their will. They may be exposed to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS because of lack of protection (Omede, 2011).

**Poor Academic Performance:** Most undergraduate students who dress indecently have poor academic record because they pay more attention to their appearance than their academic work. Their concern is mostly how to look good and appear in the latest stuff. Several of them battle with carry over courses with the consequences of staying longer in the school than is normal graduate, graduate with very weak grades and some may not ever graduate at all having outlived their studentship in the institution and not being to pass some prescribed courses. Oli (2018) noted that some of these undergraduate students get frustrated and they become armed robbers, prostitutes, home or marriage breakers, drug addicts or traffickers.

**Prostitutions:** Skimpy transparent and body exposing dresses are known to be the dress pattern of prostitutes. Most ladies found in such dresses are always negotiated for sex or social intimacy because they are most often thought to be without husbands. Apart from this notion, most ladies that dress this way engage in prostitution and commercial sex to be able to sponsor or sustain these forms of dresses. The cumulative effect of this is unwanted pregnancies, HIV/AIDS infection and death (Okafor & Uwalaka, 2021).

### **2.1.6 Possible Strategies to Indecent Dressing in Nigerian Tertiary Institutions**

The problem of indecent dressing requires an integrated approach because of its multifaceted causes. According to Nwabuisi (2010) the following are the possible solutions to indecent dressing:

**Parents as Role Models:** Children watch their parents and copy their ways of behaviour. The behaviour of parents impresses on their children more greatly than what they tell them either to do or not to do. Parents are to be obligated to their children by bringing them up properly and in

the fear of God. Parents more especially women should spend time with their children and counsel them on the type of clothes to buy (Yahaya, 2020).

**The Mass Media:** The mass media is one strong agent of socialization. Radio houses, televisions, newspapers and magazines should confront rather than support indecent dressing. The display of some indecently dressed young girls for adverts and attraction should be discouraged. Radios and television jingles that promote moral values and the sanctity of sex should be aired and relayed. Programs that sample opinions of Nigerians on indecent dressing should be regularly put in place in addition to debates on the issue by youths in institutions of learning as means of effective sensitization (Yahaya, 2020).

**Enlightenment Programme, Campaign, Seminar/ Workshop:** Enlightenment campaign and seminars can be introduced as weekly by religious groups and other various youth's empowerment programme, social clubs on campuses with concern on the issues of dressing, sexual harassment, morality and effects of the ungodly behaviour on the youths and on their future. This seminar will be organized even in primary and secondary schools to encourage our younger women to dress better. People should be instructed to be original and attractive even without being naked and they can be admired (Yahaya, 2020).

**Dress Code:** Some colleges, polytechnics and universities in Nigeria have introduced dress codes for their students. The problem is not just in making the rules but in their enforcements. For these rules to be enforced, lecturers should be made to collaborate with the college/polytechnic/ university management staffs and their security personnel's. Lecturers are to be empowered to prevent indecently dressed students from attending their lectures, refuse to attend to such students in their areas of needs. Administrative staff should disallow such students from their offices while the security staff should serve as watchdogs. They should be allowed to

open a record in their offices for immodestly dressed students and forward such names particularly those who are not first offenders to the disciplinary committee of the school for appropriate sanction that the code must have spelt (Yahaya, 2020).

**Religious Institutions:** Through regular sermons or preaching as well as counseling, Pastors and Imams should resist and insist on healthy development of their members. From counseling of some members they may discover those that are demonized or demon possessed and they can by their pastoral anointing deliver such ones and help them to be born again. It is a regenerated person that can act Godly (Yahaya, 2020).

**Censures of Nigerian Films:** The Nigerian celebrities especially the female ones are to be cautioned by the film production regulatory bodies to be modest and dress like the Nigerians that they are. Nigeria have very rich heritage of cultures that we should be proud of and also promote. The wrong dressing pattern of our artists and the way they openly show love making in their films even though not real, do not suggest that they are Nigerians. They should domesticate their films by reflecting and promoting the rich culture of Nigeria-her dress pattern, sanctity of sex and so on (Yahaya, 2020).

## **2.2 Empirical Review**

Oli (2017) examined the social determinants and effects of indecent dressing among undergraduates in higher institutions of learning in Nigeria. Some factors that influence indecent dressing include home environment, peer group influence, negative influence of internet, changing social values. Effects of indecent dressing include sexual harassment and rape, contraction of HIV/AIDS, prostitution, ritual killing, poor academic performance, unwanted pregnancy etc. The paper is anchored on modernization theory and social learning theory. It was

recommended that parents should be role models to their children and monitor the films their children watch. Also, the school management should ensure that laws and rules guiding indecent dressing in the higher institutions are enforced.

Kwanuba, *et.al*, (2020) carried out a study on students' perception of indecent dressing in Adamawa state citadel of higher learning. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design. A multistage sampling technique was used in selecting 400 students from four citadels of higher learning in Adamawa State. "Perception of Students on Indecent Dressing Questionnaire" (PSIDQ) was the instrument used in data collection. The instrument was validated and the reliability tested using Cronbach alpha statistic. A reliability coefficient of 0.86 was obtained. Descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions. The results showed that the students agreed with the 10 causes of indecent dressing in Adamawa State citadel of higher learning; 12 negative consequences of indecent dressing on academic performance, and the 11 roles of parents and tertiary institutions in curbing indecent dressing in Adamawa State citadel of higher learning. Also, the study revealed that the students demonstrated a negative attitude towards decent dressing on campuses. Based on these findings, the study recommended among others the strict implementation of the dress code policy in Adamawa State citadel of higher learning.

In a study conducted by Olorunda (2022) on indecent dressing pattern that is common among youth in South-West Nigeria. The ethnography research design was used in this study, the population for this study consisted of all youth in southwest Nigeria. The sample of this study consisted of 20 selected youth in southwest Nigeria. A multistage sampling procedure that includes a simple random sampling technique and purposive sampling technique was adopted. It includes In-depth interviews, observations, documents, and field notes to collect data. The data

collected were analyzed using both content and narrative analysis for the research questions raised. The findings revealed various forms that include the use of the internet, fading values, and peer influence. The consequence includes rape, prostitution, HIV/AIDs and other venereal diseases/infections, cases of armed robbery, lying, poor school grades, dropout others. In conclusion, it shows that indecent dressing has negative effects on youth in southwest Nigeria. From the research findings, it is obvious that the absence of a dress code has created a high rate of indecent dressing. This has manifested in forms of distraction, lack of academic focus, sexual harassment, cultism, loss of integrity, etc. It was recommended that parents/ guidance should teach their children moral education, they should give them enough attention and encourage them not to over-indulge in watching films at home and also mass-media, especially social-media should promote the positive aspect of norms, values, and tradition in our society.

Similarly, Fareo and Jackson (2018) investigated the effects of indecent dressing in Adamawa State educational tertiary institutions. The study adopted a survey research design. 300 students were selected from the three tertiary institutions through stratified random sampling technique using sex, age and class level as strata. The instrument was validated by two experts in Counselling Psychology and Test and Measurement, while test-retest method was used to determine the reliability of the instrument, and the reliability coefficient was 0.87. Results showed that the factors influencing indecent dressing included imitation of western style of dressing, peer/ social group pressure, wrong and inadequate family orientation on the correct dressing manners, among others. The results also revealed the effects of indecent dressing to include poor academic performance, lack of concentration in class, seduction of lecturers, victimization of students by members of staff, dropping out of school, and leakage of examination of questions by such lecturers. In conclusion, the mode of dressing by

undergraduates in tertiary institutions is worrisome and unacceptable. The study recommended that the school management in tertiary institutions should organize seminars, conferences, workshops and public enlightenment programmes regularly to sensitize and enlighten undergraduates on the need to dress decently in the society.

Another study by Okafor and Uwalaka (2021) explores the problems of indecent dressing that has pervaded among undergraduate students in Nigerian tertiary institutions. Dress pattern that is common among students of higher institution of learning in Nigeria. The various forms that these dresses appears, reasons why these students dress indecently, use of the internet, fading values as well as demonic influence among others. The negative repercussions include rape, HIV/AIDS and other venereal diseases/infections as well as armed robbery, lying and poor academic performance and prostitutions. Indecent dressing is one of the major problems that is eating up our youths, both male and female undergraduate students. There has been public outcry among Muslim, Christians and traditional leaders, parents and scholars on the mode of dressing of young boys and girls in Nigeria societies especially in the tertiary institutions. These are fathers and mothers of tomorrow and the ones to whom the legacy of training and nurturing leaders of this country is to be leaved. Does it suggest the dearth of Nigeria culture and morality that is the symbol of Nigeria identity, continuity, security and unity? This paper discusses the meaning and types of indecent dressing, possible reasons why some undergraduate student dress indecently in Nigerian tertiary institutions and its effects and consequences among undergraduate students in Nigerian tertiary institutions. Possible strategies to indecent dressing in Nigerian tertiary institutions were also discussed. It was recommended, among others, tertiary institutions should adopt dress codes for their students.

Akpan (2018) investigates indecent dressing and its effects on undergraduate students of University of Uyo. Four objectives were formulated with subsequent research questions and hypotheses, to examine knowledge of students about indecent dressing, examine the influence of campus environment and mass media on indecent dressing and also to examine perceived implication of indecent dressing. The study adopted a survey design with a self – developed questionnaire which has a reliability coefficient of .84 as instrument for data collection. The study has 224 participants which were selected using convenience sampling technique. The data generated were analyzed using percentages to answer research questions and chi-square was used to test hypothesis at .05 level of significance. The result of the study showed that the student significantly knew about indecent dressing, campus environment and mass media significantly contribute to indecent dressing and students perceived indecent dressing to have a significant negative implication on individuals. It was recommended among others that school authority should formulate policy to guide students dressing within the campus which should be properly enforced. Also government and other relevant authorities should formulate policy to regulate the mass media activities with relevant legal backing.

In a recent research survey by Nzoiwu (2023) the trend of indecent dressing appears to have continued unabated as students; males and females alike are still found dressed indecently in the lecture hall and even beyond. Thus, the objective of the study was to find out the causes and consequences of indecent dressing in Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. The sample of the study was made up of 300 undergraduate students obtained via accidental sampling technique. Data collected with self-developed questionnaire were analyzed using mean and standard deviation. The findings of the study revealed that indecent dressing among undergraduate students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka is caused peer pressure, poor parenting, poor self-

worth, internet addiction, a feeling of wanting to belong as well as fading societal values. The finding of the study further indicated that sexual harassment, devaluation of a lady/guy, tendency for a lady to be lured into prostitution and poor academic achievement are some of the consequences of indecent dressing among undergraduate students. It was recommended among others that University administrators should see to the legalization and implementation of dress code that portrays decency so as to address the menace of indecent dressing.

## **2.3 Theoretical Review**

### **2.2.1 Modernization Theory**

Modernization theory originated from the ideas of German Sociologist Max Weber (1864-1920) who provided the basis for the modernization paradigm developed by Harvard Sociologist Talcott Parsons (1902-1979). Modernization theory refers to a model of a progressive transition from a pre-modern or traditional to a modern society. It is a description and explanation of the processes of transformation from traditional value system to modern value system. Modernization theory both attempts to identify the social variables that contribute to social progress and development of societies and seeks to explain the process of social evolution. The theory stresses not only the process of change but also the responses to that change. It also looks at internal dynamics while referring to social and cultural structures and the adaptation of new technologies. Modernization theory suggests that traditional societies will develop as they adopt more modern practices. Proponents of this theory claim that modern states are wealthier and more powerful and that their citizens are freer to enjoy a higher standard of living. Developments such as new data technology and the need to update traditional methods in transport, communication, and production, the theorist argued, make modernization necessary or at least preferable to the status quo (Oli, 2017).

In modernization theory, an attempt has always been made to erode almost all the traditional values either good or bad to embrace the modern ones, hence, the primary attention of this theory has been made to focus on ways in which past and present pre-modern societies become modern in all facets of lives through processes of economic growth and change in social, political, and cultural structures usually termed to as globalization. Modernization theorists study the social, political, and cultural consequences of economic growth and the conditions that are important for industrialization and economic growth to occur. Yet the underlying cultural consequences, as well as its health-related consequences have not been provided with considerable explanations (Kwanuba, *et.al*, 2020).

In developing this theory, Armer and Katsillis (2000) maintained that the underlying description of social features and changes that are thought to characterize modern urban industrial societies are theoretical assumptions and mechanisms to explain the shift from traditional to modern societal types. However, these explanatory systems draw upon the dominant theoretical perspectives in the 1950s and 1960s growing out of classical evolutionary, diffusion and structural functionalist theories. The diffusion added the ideas that cultural patterns associated with modern society could be transferred via social interaction (trade, war, travelers, media etc.).

In relating this theory to the phenomenon at hand, indecent dressing by students in tertiary institution can be attributed to adoption of western culture by our youths. Influence of media on youth has affected their dressing pattern. Students associate their dress pattern with modernity and have abandoned our cherished cultural manner of dressing. Students who dress indecently often attribute the changes or transformation in their dress pattern to modernization, civilization, or being in tune with the changing times. This they acquire through interaction with modern

technologies such as television, Facebook, WhatsApp, and Twitter. This leads to the acquisition or adoption of foreign or western culture at the detriment of the African or Nigerian culture.

### **2.2.2 Social Learning Theory**

Social learning theory was developed by Bandura (1977). This theory stemmed out of work by Miller and Dollard in 1941. Their proposition posits that if humans were motivated to learn a particular behavior that particular behavior would be learned through clear observations. By imitating these observed actions the individual observer would solidify that learned action and be rewarded with positive reinforcement (Miller & Dollard, 1941). The proposition of social learning was expanded upon and theorized by Albert Bandura from 1962 to the present. This theory posits that people learn from one another through observation, imitation and modeling. According to Bandura (1977) people learn through observing others behavior, attitudes and outcomes of those, one forms an idea of how new behaviours are performed and on later occasions this coded information serves as a guide for action. Social learning theory explains human behavior in terms of continuous reciprocal interaction between cognitive, behavioural and environmental influences. It is a theory of learning and social behaviour which proposes that new behaviours can be acquired by observing and imitating others. Social learning theory also known as social cognitive theory is the idea that people learn by watching what others do and human thought processes are central to understanding personality.

In relating social learning theory to indecent dressing among undergraduates students one can rightly say that they learn the dress pattern from peers and movies actors and actresses by observing, imitating and modeling. They learn these western values of dressing from internet, TV, magazine and newspaper.

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Research Design

This research design adopted for the study was descriptive survey research design which involves observing and describing the behavior or getting a precise measurement of a subject without influencing it (Loeb et al., 2017). This design enables the research to explain, record, analyze and interpret the conditions that exists in relations to the subject matter. The descriptive study designed optimized on the strengths of both quantitative and qualitative research methodology.

#### 3.2 Population of the Study

The population in this study comprising of undergraduate students of the Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. The Faculty consist of 6 Department both fulltime and part time. The faculty consists of six (6) departments which are Department of Economics and Statistics, Department of Political Science, Department of Public Administration, Department of Regional Planning and Geography, Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Department of Social Works. Therefore, the population of the study comprises of the total number of undergraduate students in the six (6) departments in the faculty of social sciences of the institution. The total number of undergraduate fulltime students in the faculty of social sciences is estimated to be 3,640 (*Student Affairs, 2024*)

### **3.3 Sample Size**

The study selected thirty (25) undergraduate students from each of the six (6) departments in the faculty as the sample to represent the total population of the study. Hence, the total number of one hundred and fifty undergraduate students will represent the sample size for the study.

### **3.4 Sampling Techniques**

In selecting the targeted respondents the study will make use of the stratified random sampling method and the purposive sampling technique. The faculty will be divided into strata using age, sex and class so that each department will have an equal chance of being represented. Sample of the study will be selected from the 6 departments in the faculty of social sciences. The following faculties will be randomly selected from: Social Science: Social work, Public Administration, Sociology, Political Science, Economics and Geography and Regional Planning . These respondents will be selected using purposive sampling technique, after which stratified sampling was used in classifying the respondents by department. Next, a simple random sampling will be used in selecting the respondents, in cases where the respondents will be negligent in responding, a convenience sampling will be used in selecting the next available respondent.

### **3.5 Instrument for Data Collection**

The instrument used in obtaining relevant data for this study is self-structured questionnaire. The questionnaire comprises of two (2) sections. Section (A) consist of demographic information of respondents. Section (B) consist of research questions generated to guide conduct of the study from its inception. The four point Likert rating scale of Strongly Agree (SA), Agreed (A), Disagree (D), and Strongly Disagree (SD) with corresponding ordinal values of 4, 3, 2 and 1 was

adapted as the main instrument for data collection. The instrument was considered suitable for this research because previous researchers have made use of the type of questionnaire and found it suitable for carrying out their research.

### **3.6 Method of Data Collection**

The researcher personally administered the questionnaires and retrieved immediately from the respondents.

### **3.7 Method of Data Analysis**

Data collected were analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency count, percentage, mean and standard deviation. The data collected on the demographic profiles of the respondents were analyzed using frequency count and percentage and the result were further presented using graphs. The data collected to answer the research questions were analyzed with frequency count, percentage, mean and standard deviation.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the data analysis of responses from the respondents on indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. Although one hundred and fifty (150) questionnaires was administered, only one hundred and forty four (144) questionnaires was retrieved. A total of six (6) questionnaires was lost. This chapter covers the result obtained from the research.

#### SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTIC OF THE RESPONDENTS

**Table 1 SEX DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS**

<b>SEX</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	FEMALE	144	100
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

From table 1 above the result revealed that the entire respondents in the study were all female as they make up 100% of the entire respondents.

**Table 2 AGE OF RESPONDENTS**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	16-19	45	31.3
	20-23	82	56.9
	24-27	17	11.8
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

Table 2 shows that the age group 16-19 has 31.3% of the total respondents, age group 20-23 has 56.9%, while age group 24-27 has 11.8% of the total respondents. This statistic therefore shows that we have the perfect age grades for their responses and views to the research topic.

**Table 3 RELIGION OF RESPONENTS**

<b>RELIGION</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	CHRISTAIN	137	95.1
	MUSLIM	3	2.1
	ATR	4	2.8
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

Table 3 shows that 95.1% of the respondents administered the questionnaires are Christian, and 2.1% are Muslim, while 2.8% are ATR. This statistics reviews that the majority of the students in the halls of residence in University of Benin are predominantly Christians.

**TABLE 4: MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENTS**

<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	SINGLE	142	98.6
	MARRIED	2	1.4
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field Work 2024**

Table 4 shows that 98.6% of the respondents administered the questionnaires are single, while 1.4% of the respondents are married. This statistics shows that we have our target single audience for their responses and views on the research topic.

**TABLE: 5. DEPARTMENTS**

<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	Economics	26	18.1
	Social work	30	13.8
	Public Admin	13	22.9
	Political Science	24	16.7
	Sociology and Anthropology	31	21.5
	Geography and regional planning	20	10.9
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork2024**

Table 5: shows that 18.1% of the respondents administered with the questionnaires are from Economics department, and 13.8% from Social Work, while 22.9% are from Public Administration, 16.7% from Political Science, and 21.5% from the department of Sociology and Anthropology, while geography has 10.0 respondents. This statistics show the five different departments of respondents that were interviewed for the study.

**TABLE: 6. LEVEL OF RESPONDENTS**

<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	100 level	29	20.1
	200 level	20	13.9
	300 level	51	35.5
	400 level	44	30.5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field work 2024**

From the table above, the result shows that majority of the respondents are in 300 level which often refer to as the pen-ultimate year as they make up 35.5% of the entire respondents, followed by the 400 level respondents as they make up 30.5% of the entire respondent. This is necessitated as they must had one or more experience while studying the university with a multi-task schedule. However, 20.1% of the entire respondents are freshers or usually called 100 level students and the least among the respondents are those in 200 level as they constitute 13.9% of the respondents respectively

**Table 7 ETHNIC GROUP**

<b>ETHNIC GROUP</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	Bini	16	11.1
	Esan	46	31.9
	Owan	41	28.5
	Ibo	31	21.5
	Yoruba	9	6.3
	Itsekiri	1	.7
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Work 2024**

Table 7 shows that 11.1% of the respondents administered with the questionnaires are from Bini, 31.9% are from the Esan speaking part of Edo state, 28.5% are from Owan, 21.5% are from the Ibo speaking ethnic group, 6.3% are from the Yoruba speaking group of Nigeria, while .7% are from itsekiri.

**SECTION B: INDECENT DRESSING AND ATTITUDINAL CHANGES AMONG STUDENTS OF FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**

This section examines indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of Faculty of Social Science, University of Benin. However we will be basing our analyses on the objective of the study in drawing the various tables and interpreting the responses gotten from the field.

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVE ONE: TO EXAMINE THE VARIOUS FORMS OF INDECENT DRESSING AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN?**

**TABLE 1: AWARENESS ON THE TERM INDECENT DRESSING**

How Would You Define Or Explain Indecent Dressing?	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Putting on exposed clothes	87	60.4
	Putting on clothing of opposite gender	20	13.8
	Dressing wrongly	25	17.4
	Dressing improperly	5	3.5
	No Idea	7	4.9
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field Work 2024*

From the Table 1 above, it is indicated that 60.4% of the entire respondents understand the concept of improper dressing to mean putting on exposed clothes, while 17.4% believe indecent dressing to means just dressing wrongly, 13.8% understand indecent dressing to mean cross dressers and 3.5% of the entire respondents sees indecent dressing as a point where the individual dress generally improperly, and 4.9% has no idea of what indecent dressing is.

**TABLE 2: FORMS OF INDECENT DRESSIGN AMONG STUDENTS**

What forms of indecent dressing have you witness among undergraduate students.	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Revealing cloths	8	5.6
	Cloths with offensive write up	27	18.8
	Bum shots	3	2.1
	Bum short	21	14.6
	Sagged trouser	30	20.8
	Tight and fitted clothing	55	38.1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Fieldwork2024*

The results from the table 2 above shows the respondent's opinion of the types of indecent clothing predominant among students. From the table above, 5.6% of the entire respondents affirmed revealing cloths. 18.8% of the respondents gave it to Cloths with offensive write up and 20.8% gave it to Sagged trouser. Next are the respondents that opined that bum short as they make up 14.6% and 2.1% of the entire respondents gave it to tight and spaghetti while 38.1% of the respondents said its Tight and fitted clothing.

**TABLE 3: REASONS OR INDECENT DRESSING**

What are the main reason why student dress indecently?	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Peer pressure	37	25.7
	Fashion trends	38	26.4
	Mass Media	37	25.7
	Lack of awareness	31	22.2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork 2024

Table 3 show that 25.7% of the entire respondents affirmed that they got their idea of dressing indecently as a result from peer pressure, while 26.4% of the respondents claimed that they dress indecently to portray fashion and those that say mass media constitute 25.7%. the least among the respondents are those that claimed they dress indecently as a result of lack of awareness.

**OBJECTIVE 2: TO INVESTIGATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT CONTRIBUTE TO INDECENT DRESSING AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN.**

**TABLE 4: DRESS CODE OR GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT**

Do you think there should be dress code or guidelines for student?	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	YES	129	89.6
	NO	15	10.4
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field Work 2024**

Table 4, reveals that a very great percentage of the total number of respondents (89.6%) ticked YES, meaning majority of the respondents feel dressing should be controlled around school community, and only 10.4% affirmed the negative. Meaning, only few respondents disagree to control on dresses in university.

**TABLE 5: FREQUENCY OF RELATING WITH INDECENTLY DRESSED STUDENT**

How frequent do you see poorly dressed students in school environment	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	ALWAYS	73	50.0
	SOMETIMES	60	41.7
	NEVER	11	8.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork2024**

The table 5 above shows the frequency to which the presence of indecent dressing students are seen, the result shows that 50% of the entire respondents affirmed that they always see indecently dressed students and 41.7% of the respondents agreed that they sometimes sees indecently dressed students. The least among the respondents are those who agreed that they have never seen indecently dressed students as they make up 8.3% of the entire respondents.

**OBJECTIVE 3: TO DETERMINE STUDENTS’ ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTION TOWARDS INDECENT DRESSING AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN.**

**Table 6: PERCEPTION OF INDECENT DRESSING AMONG STUDENT**

Have you been seen an indecent dressed student before	RESPONSE	FREQUEC NCY	PERCENTAGE
	YES	137	95.1
	NO	7	4.9
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

From the table 6 above, addressing the respondent’s opinion on indecent dressing,95.1% of the total respondents were affirmative that they have in point or the other in life seen indecent dressing, while the other 4.9% were in the negative.

**TABLE 7: CAUSES OF INDECENT DRESSING AMONG STUDENTS**

If yes what do you think led to the indecent dressing among students	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Peer influence	32	22.2
	Poor parenting	58	40.3
	Environmental factors	10	6.9
	low self-esteem	7	4.9
	Trying to impress	30	20.8
	Wrong fashion style	7	4.9
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

In analyzing table 7, the result shows that 40.3% of the entire respondents agreed that poor parenting is one of the major causes of indecent dressing, while 22.2% of the total respondent affirmed that peer influence is a cause of indecent dressing, and, 20.8% of the entire respondents affirmed that in trying to impress students dress indecently, 6.9% believes environmental factors is the cause of indecent dressing among students, also 4.9% affirm the cause to be low self-esteem, finally 4.9% of the entire respondent affirmed that wrong fashion style is the cause of indecent dressing among students.

**TABLE 8: ENCOUNTER WITH POORLY DRESSED STUDENT**

Have you ever had an encounter with poorly dressed student in school	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	YES	63	43.7
	NO	81	56.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Fieldwork 2024**

Result from the table8 above shows the respondent's opinion on their encounter with poorly dressed student, and from the result it is obvious that most of the respondents disagreed to the assertion made as they constitute 56.3% of the entire respondents duly followed by the respondents that were positive with their approach as they make up 43.7%

**TABLE 9: ENCOUNTER WITH POORLY DRESSED STUDENT**

Who is he/she to you	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Friend	25	39.7
	Classmates	22	34.9
	Relatives	16	25.4
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Fieldwork 2024*

From the response available on table 9, the result shows that most of the poorly dressed students are friends of the respondents as they constitute 39.7% of the entire respondents duly followed by poorly dressed who are classmate of the respondents as they make up 22% of the entire respondents. The least among the respondents are those who affirmed that the poorly dressed students are members of the family or relatives as they make up 25.4% respectively.

**TABLE 10: TYPES OF CLOTHING STUDENTS WEAR**

Do you know the types of clothing students wear	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Yes	63	43.8
	No	81	56.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Fieldwork2024*

The table 10 above shows that majority of the respondents says they don't know the types of clothing female students wear as they make up 56.3% and the respondents that were affirmative that they know the types of clothing female students wear constitute 43.8% of the entire respondents respectively.

**TABLE 11: IDEA OF THE CLOTHES**

Where did they get the idea of indecent clothes	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Friends / peers	37	25.7
	Family	38	26.4
	Mass Media	37	25.7
	Social Media	31	22.2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Fieldwork 2024*

Table 11 show that 25.7% of the entire respondents affirmed that they got their idea from friends, while 26.4% of the respondents claimed that the idea came from families and those that say mass media constitute 25.7%. the least among the respondents are those that claimed they got the idea from the social media as the make up 22.2% of the entire respondents.

**TABLE 12: EFFECT OF INDECENT DRESSING**

Have you experience the negative effect of indecent dressing	RESPONSE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
	Yes	104	72.2
	No	40	27.8
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Fieldwork 2024*

From table 12 above the results shows that 72.2% of the entire respondents agreed that they have seen some of the effect of indecent dressing. and 27.8% of the respondents disagreed to the assertion made above.

**OBJECTIVE 4: TO INVESTIGATE THE PERCEIVED EFFECTS AND CONSEQUENCES OF INDECENT DRESSING AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN.**

**TABLE 13: PROBLEM OF INDECENT DRESSING.**

What are the	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
perceived effect of indecent dressing	Harassment	17	11.8
	Negative effect on academic performance	25	17.4
	Exposes too much skin	32	22.2
	It causes distraction	34	23.7
	No response	36	25.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Fieldwork 2024*

The table 13 shows that 11.8% of the entire respondents agreed that effect of indecent dressing is that it lead to harassment, 17.4% it destabilizes the Negative effect on academic performance and 22.2% affirmed that it exposes too much skin. 23.7% of the entire respondents said it causes distraction and 25% of the entire respondents refused to respond to the above assertion.

**TABLE 14: CONTROL INDECENT DRESSING**

Have you ever experience	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
the faculty trying to control indecent dressing?	Yes	104	72.2
	No	40	27.8
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Fieldwork2024

From table 14 above the results shows that 72.2% of the entire respondents agreed that the faculty have tried measures to control dressing through suggesting uniform for students. and 27.8% of the respondents disagreed to the assertion made above.

**TABLE 15: ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF INDECENT DRESSING**

Do you believe that addressing the issue of indecent dressing can improve the overall image of Nigerian universities	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	Yes	63	43.8
	No	81	56.3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100.0</b>

*Source: Fieldwork2024*

The table 15 above shows that majority of the respondents says they believe that addressing the issue of indecent dressing can improve the overall image of Nigerian universities 56.3% and the respondents that were affirmative that they believe that addressing the issue of indecent dressing can improve the overall image of Nigerian universities 43.8% of the entire respondents respectively.

**TABLE 16: RECOMMENDATIONS TO INDECENT DRESSING**

How do you think the campus environment could be changed to discourage indecent dressing	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
	Enforcing strict measure	36	25.0
	Counselling	36	25.0
	Corrected and advised	36	25.0
	Create a standard uniform	36	25.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Fieldwork2024*

From the response available on table 16 above, the result shows that the respondents advocated that persons with indecent dressing should be made to face strict punishment, others says they should be counseled, as they make up 25% of the entire respondents respectively. 25%

of the respondents affirmed that such individual should be corrected and advised while same percentage of the respondents believes that the institution should have a standard uniform that will check the excesses of indecent dressed girls.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1. Introduction**

This chapter presents a summary of the statement of the problem, conclusion and recommendations.

#### **5.2 Summary of Findings**

As stated in chapter one, the objective of this study is to analyze students' indecent dressing and attitudinal changes among students of Faculty of Social Science. As the study reviewed relevant literatures, it also adopted the Modernization Theory to indecent dressing from the dysfunctional dimension. Adopted a survey research design for its methodologies and the study was carried out using a sample population of 144 respondents which was evenly distributed among students in the faculty of social sciences, University of Benin. The study was a survey design, and a questionnaire was developed and used for data collection. The questionnaire was face validated by the supervisor, in order to ensure that the right instrument was used for the collection of data, each of the validates was served a copy of the instrument and requested to identify ambiguities and proffer suggestion for improving the instrument towards meeting the objectives of study.

#### **5.3. CONCLUSION**

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusion was drawn:

The style and pattern of dressing are largely determined by variables like peer pressure, fashion in trend, and rarely as a result of ethical dress code etc. Despite these and other variables, certain types of dressing by undergraduate students do not conform to moral standard thereby, debasing

the human value, norm and standard. As a result, the cherished cultural norms and value are highly abused and relegated to the background, as undergraduate student ignorantly copy and wear indecent, reckless and provocative clothing meant for commercial sex hawkers and hoodlums.

There are motivating factors underlying the selection and wearing of clothing by undergraduate student of the University of Benin, as most clothing items selected and wearing of clothing by undergraduate student in the university are indecent. Although in some universities there are some guidelines for wearing clothing items. But these students have experience some problems in their choice of clothing and some solutions were prescribed.

### **5.3. Recommendations**

Based on the finding from the study, the following advocacy were given irrespective of the location, religion, status in the society and/or position

- The university administration should incorporate element of good clothing worn in to the orientation program of first year undergraduates.
- Good clothing suggestion for student should be incorporated into the program of Nigerian universities as compulsory courses to be taken by student especially
- Disciplinary committee should be established or set up in each university to look into the issue of indecent dressing among undergraduates students.
- There should be enlightenment program on television or radio by non-governmental organization (NGOs), religious bodies or even individuals on good dressing and the consequences of indecent dressing.
- Clothing motivation and behavior should form the focus.

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12. Do you think there should be dress codes or guidelines for students in the social science faculty?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

13. How do you think the issue of indecent dressing among students can be addressed?

Through education and awareness campaigns Through enforcement of dress codes

Through parental guidance and counseling

Other (please specify).....

10. Have you ever been reprimanded or cautioned for dressing indecently in your faculty?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

11. Do you think the campus environment influences the way students dress?

Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree

12. In your opinion, what aspects of the campus environment contribute to indecent dressing?

Influence of peers Accessibility to trendy clothing

Other (please specify).....

13. Do you believe that the campus environment promotes a culture of indecent dressing?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

14. How do you think the campus environment affects students' perception of appropriate dress?

It encourages modesty It promotes freedom of expression It has no significant impact

Other (please specify).....

15. Have you ever felt pressured to dress a certain way because of the campus environment?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

17. Have you observed any efforts by the university to address the issue of indecent dressing?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

18. In your opinion, how effective are these efforts in curbing indecent dressing?

Very effective Somewhat effective Not very effective Not effective at all

19. Do you believe that addressing the campus environment can significantly reduce indecent dressing among students?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

20. Do you think that students' attitudes towards indecent dressing are influenced by societal norms and expectations?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

21. How do you think the issue of indecent dressing among students can be addressed?

Through education and awareness campaigns Through enforcement of dress codes

Through parental guidance and counseling

Other (please specify).....

22. Do you think that students' attitudes towards indecent dressing can be changed?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

23. In your opinion, how can universities promote a culture of modesty and decency among students?

By organizing seminars and workshops By setting a good example through staff and faculty

By implementing stricter dress codes Other (please specify).....

24. Do you believe that indecent dressing has negative effects on the behavior of undergraduate students in Nigeria? Strongly agree Agree Disagree Strongly disagree

25. In your opinion, what are the perceived effects of indecent dressing among students?

Increased likelihood of harassment Negative impact on academic performance

Influence on moral values Other (please specify).....

26. Have you personally experienced or witnessed any negative consequences of indecent dressing among students?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....

28. Do you believe that indecent dressing contributes to a negative perception of Nigerian youth?

Yes No Others if others, specify.....